

That which is claimed is

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1. A non-invasive human user identification and verification system, comprising:

- a smart card;
- a silicon-based video camera embedded within said smart card for gathering
- 5 facial image data;
- a digitizer integrated within said smart card for digitizing said facial image data;
- non-volatile storage media for receiving and storing said digitized facial image data;
- 10 a docking port for receiving said smart card and communicating said digitized image data therethrough;
- communications interface for transmitting said stored digitized facial image data to a central processor capable of receiving and manipulating said data to produce an output signal for use in the identification and verification of said human user.

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2. A method for the identification and verification of a human user, comprising the steps of:

capturing one or more first facial images at a remote enrollment station and digitizing said first facial images for storage in a non-volatile media within a smart card;

20 inserting said smart card with embedded video camera into a docking port;

capturing one or more second facial images and digitizing and transmitting said second facial images to a central processor capable of receiving and comparing said first and second facial images and producing a signal indicative of recognition or non-recognition of said human user.